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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/722,634 | 11/26/2003 | Ichiro Ozaki | P/3156-25 | 7333 |

2352 7590 06/05/2007
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| EXAMINER |
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LEE, JOHN J

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2618

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| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-----------|---------------|

06/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/722,634

Applicant(s)

OZAKI, ICHIRO

Examiner

JOHN J. LEE

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/12/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments/Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments/amendments received on March 14, 2007 have been carefully considered but they are not persuasive because the teaching of all the cited reference reads on all the rejected claims as set forth in the previous rejection. Therefore, the finality of this Office Action is deemed proper.

Contrary to the assertions at pages 10 - 11 of the Arguments, claims 1, 2, and 6 – 16 are not patentable.

During examination, the USPTO must give claims their broadest reasonable interpretation.

Re claims 1, 2, and 6 – 16: Applicant argues that the Tomari (EP 1,148,423) does not teach the claimed invention “a relating unit extracting one or more related electronic mails from said mail region based on a relating condition specified by an operation of a user to the electronic mail being displayed, and then displaying said one or more related electronic mails”. However, The Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant’s assertion that the Tomari does not teach the claimed invention. Contrary to Applicant’s assertion, the Examiner is of the opinion that Tomari teaches a relating unit (information history list display section) extracting (retrieving) one or more related electronic mails (connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information stored in the information management table) from said mail region based on a relating condition specified (it could be any condition for example related information for same subjects, same mailer ID, or any relating things same as teaching in Tomari reference

because the limitation “relating condition specified” is too broad limitation for interpreting the limitation, means it does not require or limit for any specific interpretation of the limitation) by an operation of a user (information terminal) to the electronic mail being displayed (more specifically, displaying electronic mails and the history information items of the each mail based on relating condition, it could be any condition for example related information for same subjects, same mailer ID, or any relating things same as teaching in Tomari reference, by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section see column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6), and then displaying said one or more related electronic mails (Tomari teaches on the same screen (in displaying LCD) enables the user to check the history information items (electronic mails and the history information items of the each mail based on relating condition) see column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6), regarding claimed invention.

Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection below for the reasons as to why this limitation is not patentable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. **Claims 1 – 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomari (EP 1,148,423).

Regarding **claim 1**, Tomari teaches that a portable terminal (information terminal such that mobile telephone in Fig. 1). Tomari teaches that a mail region (Fig. 3) storing transmitted and received electronic mails (column 2, lines 40 – column 3, lines 30, Fig. 3, and column 8, lines 16 – 55, where teaches a electronic mail history management section for recording history information about communication). Tomari teaches that a mail processing unit performing processing for transmission, reception, and display of an electronic mail and storage of the electronic mail in said mail region (column 2, lines 40 – column 3, lines 30, Fig. 3, and column 8, lines 33 – column 9, lines 39, where teaches the mail processing unit (mail management unit in Fig. 3) performs processing for transmission, reception, and display of the electronic mail and storing of the mail). Tomari teaches that a relating unit extracting (retrieving) one or more related electronic mails from said mail region based on a relating condition specified by an operation of a user to the electronic mail being displayed (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying the history information items by retrieving in

connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section), and then displaying said one or more related electronic mails (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches on the same screen (displaying LCD) enables the user to check the history information items).

Regarding **claim 2**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claim 1. Furthermore, Tomari further teaches that an operation unit (controller with operation units in Fig. 3) on which a user performs an entry operation (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 19 – 55, where teaches information terminal, mobile telephone or PDA has a database to operate personal address book, and user can entry the information, name, telephone number)). Tomari teaches that a radio transmitting and receiving unit communicating through wireless communication (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 19 – 55, where teaches information terminal, mobile telephone or PDA wirelessly communicates with network). Tomari teaches that a storage unit (the history management section in Fig. 3) having a mail region storing transmitted and received electronic mails (Fig. 3 and column 8, lines 16 – column 9, lines 39, where teaches the history management section records transmitted and received electronic mails). Tomari teaches that a mail processing unit (mail management section) performing processing for transmission or reception of an electronic mail through said radio transmitting and receiving unit (12 in Fig. 3) (column 2, lines 40 – column 3, lines 30, Fig. 3, and column 8, lines 33 – column 9, lines 39, where teaches the mail processing unit (mail management unit in Fig. 3) performs processing for transmission, reception, (by transceiver in Fig. 3) and display of the

electronic mail and storing of the mail), display of the transmitted or received electronic mail on said display unit, and storage of the transmitted or received electronic mail in said mail region (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying the history information items by retrieving the transmitted and received electronic mails in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section).

Regarding **claim 3**, Tomari teaches that the electronic mail includes date and time information comprising a date and a time of transmission or reception (column 10, lines 21 – column 11, lines 45 and Fig. 4, 6, where teaches recording the necessary data, such that the party's telephone number and time and date of the incoming call as the history information). Tomari teaches that the relating unit arranges the electronic mails extracted from said mail region in an order of date and time of the date and time information, for display (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying the history information items by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section).

Regarding **claim 4**, Tomari teaches that the electronic mail includes address information of a transmitting destination or a receiving source (column 10, lines 21 – column 11, lines 45 and Fig. 4, 6, where teaches the electronic mail includes address information), Tomari teaches that when the relating condition is a condition requiring that address information A included in the electronic mail being displayed match the address

information of the transmitting destination or the receiving source (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 10 and Fig. 4, 6, where teaches displaying the history information items by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information, relating mail address for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section), said relating unit extracts one or more electronic mail including the address information A from said mail region, for display (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches on the same screen (displaying LCD) enables the user to check the history information such that electronic mail address).

Regarding **claim 5**, Tomari teaches that the electronic mail includes subject information comprising a subject (name) (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6). Tomari teaches that when the relating condition is a condition requiring that subject information B included in the electronic mail being displayed match the subject, said relating unit extracts one or more electronic mail including the subject information B from said mail region, for display (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying the history information item, name information, by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information such that relating name, for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section).

Regarding **claim 6**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 1 and 2. Furthermore, Tomari further teaches that the electronic mail includes address information of a transmitting destination or a receiving source (Fig. 4, 7 and column 10,

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lines 5 – column 11, lines 49, where teaches that the Fig. 4 teaches the electronic mail includes address information of a transmitting destination), subject information comprising a subject, and date and time information comprising a date and a time of transmission or reception (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 4, 7, where teaches displaying the history information items, name information and date and time of transmission or reception by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information such that relating name and date and time of transmission or reception for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section), the mail processing unit displays on a screen displaying the electronic mail information for selecting as a related mail an electronic mail having a same address or an electronic mail having a same subject as the electronic mail being displayed (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 4, 7, where teaches displaying the history information items, name information and date and time of transmission or reception and address by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information such that relating name and date and time of transmission or reception and address for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section). Tomari teaches that when a selecting operation is performed (user selecting the information item) on said screen displaying the electronic mail (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches on the same screen (displaying LCD) enables to display the user to check the history information items), said relating unit obtains information on the related mail (column 11, lines 8 –

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column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying relating information on the related mail), Tomari teaches that when the same address has been specified as a condition, said relating unit extracts from said mail region electronic mails having the same address as the mail being displayed, and arranges the electronic mails in a chronological order, for display (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 10 and Fig. 4, 6, where teaches displaying, in a order like a look up table, the history information items by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information, relating mail address for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section), Tomari teaches that when the same subject has been specified as a condition, said relating unit extracts from said mail region electronic mails having the same subject as the mail being displayed, and arranges the electronic mails in the chronological order, for display (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 6, where teaches displaying, in a order like a look up table, the history information item, name information, by retrieving in connection with their processing states on the basis of the history related information such that relating name, for displaying, stored in the information management table, of the history information recorded in the history management section).

Regarding **claim 7**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 1 and 2.

Regarding **claim 8**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 3 and 6.

Regarding **claim 9**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 4 and 6.

Regarding **claim 10**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 5 and 6.

Regarding **claim 11**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 2 and 6. Furthermore, Tomari further teaches that displaying on a same screen information for selecting as a related mail an electronic mail having a same address as an address of the electronic mail being displayed or an electronic mail having a same subject as an subject of the electronic mail being displayed, during display of the electronic mail (column 11, lines 8 – column 12, lines 49 and Fig. 3, 4, where teaches displaying the information on the same screen for user selecting as related mail information items having relating address, relating name of the mail being display).

Regarding **claim 12**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 1 and 2.

Regarding **claim 13**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 2 and 3.

Regarding **claim 14**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 2 and 4.

Regarding **claim 15**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 2 and 5.

Regarding **claim 16**, Tomari teaches all the limitation as discussed in claims 2 and 6.

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Or P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313

or faxed (571) 273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or: (703) 308-6606 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to USPTO Headquarters,
Alexandria, VA.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **John J. Lee** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7880**. He can normally be reached Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays from 8:30am-5:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Edward Urban**, can be reached on **(571) 272-7899**. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

J.L
May 25, 2007

John J Lee


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